

a friend and adviser to Bob, said: I want to take you up to the Hill to meet Congressman Bob Dole. I consider him to have the highest potential to be whatever he wants with regard to public service.

So I went up to the Hill, and I met this handsome young man. He didn't sit on his hands very long in terms of what he wanted to accomplish. I first met him then, and, then, as a staffer for my predecessor, the Honorable Keith Sebelius, a congressman from "The Big First" and, then, as a Member of the House for 16 years.

I tell the story that most people in the House thought that whatever I proposed or whatever I was for, Bob Dole was for me. Well, about 50 percent of that was true, but I never told them about the other 50 percent. So I was really able to get a lot done.

Bob, thank you for that.

I am so proud—so proud—to call him friend. I am proud to serve his State. I am equally proud today that each Senator—each and every Senator and colleagues on both sides of the aisle—have joined me in honoring Senator Bob Dole with a Congressional Gold Medal—all 100. It didn't take very long.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JOHNSON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVATE CORRADO PICCOLI PURPLE HEART PRESERVATION ACT

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 765 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 765) to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for penalties for the sale of any Purple Heart awarded to a member of the Armed Forces.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Perdue substitute amendment be considered and agreed to, the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 767) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Private Corrado Piccoli Purple Heart Preservation Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Purple Heart medal solemnly recognizes the great and sometimes ultimate sacrifice of American servicemembers like Private Corrado Piccoli.

(2) The Purple Heart medal holds a place of honor as the national symbol of this sacrifice and deserves special protections.

SEC. 3. PENALTY FOR SALE OF PURPLE HEARTS AWARDED TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

Section 704 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "Whoever" and inserting "Except as provided in subsection (e), whoever"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(e) PURPLE HEART.—

"(1) PENALTY.—Whoever willfully purchases, attempts to purchase, solicits for purchase, mails, ships, imports, exports, produces blank certificates of receipt for, manufactures, sells, attempts to sell, advertises for sale, trades, barter, or exchanges for anything of value any Purple Heart awarded to a member of the armed forces or former member of the armed forces by the Secretary of the military department concerned, except when authorized under regulations made pursuant to law, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 6 months, or both.

"(2) LIMITATION ON REGULATIONS.—Regulations described in paragraph (1) may not authorize the sale of any Purple Heart awarded to a member of the armed forces or former member of the armed forces by the Secretary of the military department concerned, unless the sale is conducted by the member or former member to whom the Purple Heart was awarded.

"(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term 'willfully' means the voluntary, intentional violation of a known legal duty."

The bill (S. 765), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, this legislation is important because it will offer the Purple Heart the same types of legal protections currently in place for the Medal of Honor and help put an end to profiteering off of the sacrifice of our great American heroes.

I would like to thank those Senators who have cosponsored this bill, as well, and the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee for persisting to get this bill on the floor.

There is no higher honor that we have in the Senate than to honor our veterans and the people who put their lives on the line every day for their country.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.J. RES. 76

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if the Senate receives H.J. Res. 76 from the House, and if the text of H.J. Res. 76 is identical to the text at the desk, that the joint resolution be considered passed, the preamble be considered agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

HEALTHCARE

Mr. CARPER. Good afternoon, Mr. President. It is good to see the Presiding Officer and to hear my colleague Senator PERDUE, as he prepares to probably head for home for the next several weeks.

A number of our Senators are heading for their home States this afternoon and tomorrow to begin what is traditionally called the August recess. I am fortunate to live in Delaware, and I can go home every night. Some people see it as a blessing, others as a curse. I see it as a blessing to go home and stay a while. I am looking forward to that.

We have three Senate office buildings here on Capitol Hill that Senators share and where they have their office space. The oldest is Russell. The next oldest is Dirksen. The newest is a building they call the Hart Senate Office Building. For 16 or 17 years, my staff and I have been in the Hart Building—and by choice. Every 2 years we can change offices, but we always want to stay in the same office, which is sort of unusual when you have been here for 16 or 17 years.

Sometimes a lot of people say the names Russell or Dirksen or Hart. Russell and Dirksen are pretty famous folks, even now. Hart is less well known. I will not take a lot of time to give a deep history of who Philip Hart was, but he was a Senator from Michigan and he was a Democrat. His time here preceded my time.

I was elected State treasurer for Delaware in 1976, a Congressman in 1982, and Governor in 1992. Then, I came to the Senate in 2001. But for Philip Hart and me, as far as I know, our service never crossed. If we did, I am not aware.

I don't know a lot of the things he was famous for. There are some of his famous quotes, but one of my all-time favorite quotations are the words I believe he said when he left this place. He left the Senate and retired. Some say he left too soon, but when he retired, he said these words: "I leave as I arrived, understanding clearly the complexity of the world into which we were born and optimistic that if we give it our best shot, we will come close to achieving the goals set for us 200 years ago."

That is what he said. Aren't those wonderful words? At a time when we could actually use a little bit of encouragement, I hope that, maybe, his words provide at least a small measure. For me, they always provided a large measure.

If you go back to the beginning of this Congress, January 3, and the inauguration of the President on January 20 of this year, there were high hopes